

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 8-20 are presently active in this case. The present amendment amends Claims 1, 8, 13, 14, 18, and 19. The present amendment finds support in the original specification, for example, at page 10, line 6 to page 11, line 17. Additionally, the present amendment corrects informalities. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 1-5 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, as not enabled and indefinite; rejected Claims 8, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite; and indicated that Claims 1-5 and 8-20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections set forth in the Office Action.

The Applicant appreciatively acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter. In response, Claims 1, 8, 13, 14, 18, and 19 are amended.

Regarding the rejections of Claims 1-5 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, Claims 1, 13, and 14 are hereby amended. The Advisory Action mailed April 5, 2007, stated that “[r]eplacing the ‘region’ with the --hole--...obviates this rejection and avoids introduction of...new matter.” The Advisory Action also stated that “it is not seen how the claimed structures are ‘configured’ to perform the functions.” In response, Claims 1 and 14 are amended to replace “region” with “hole.” Additionally, Claims 1, 13, and 14 are amended to remove “configured.” Applicants respectfully submit that these changes do not change the claim scope.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-5 and 8-13 are described in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to make and use the same,

and that the claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 1-5 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, be withdrawn. Further, as Claim 14 recites analogous terms to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 14, and the Claims depending therefrom, are enabled and not indefinite.

In response to the rejection of Claims 8, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claims 8, 18, and 19 are amended to recite proper Markush language, as suggested by the outstanding Office Action. Additionally, the registered trade name "Teflon" is removed from Claim 19 and replaced with "polytetrafluoroethylene," which is the generic name for Teflon. Finally, the term "PDMS-(polydimethylsiloxane)" is replaced with "polydimethylsiloxane" in order to remove all parenthetical statements from Claim 19, as suggested by the outstanding Office Action.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 8, 18, and 19 are not indefinite and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 8, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

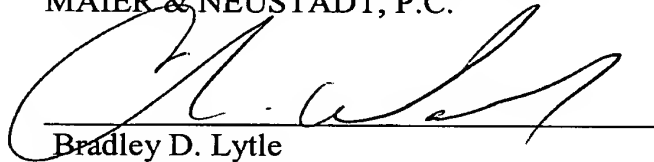
Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-5 and 8-20 is earnestly solicited.

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Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Lytle', is written over a horizontal line.

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